Dec 22 1840 Bark U. States South Lat 7° 51' W. Long 22° 13'

My Dear Mother.

As in the unexpected providence of God our heavenly Father we are indulged with the hope of sending letters to America from St Salvador on the Brazilian coast. our vessel expecting to touch there for repairs by reason of her leaky condition. I am happy to write you a few lines in testimony of my continued love. Agreeably to my expectations when I penned my last communication to you from Boston. we set sail on the 17th Nov. in company with our dear Mr. & Mrs Brethren and Sister Messrs Stickle and Van Doren and Mrs Van Doren. Thus far we have been favored with an almost uniformly favorable breeze, though we have encountered considerable tempestuous weather from which myself and others have suffered much by reason of disturbing nausea & sickness. My dear Mary has been among the sufferers though perhaps on the whole she has suffered less than myself and sister Van Doren. Sea sickness though not often immediately dangerous is one of the most disagreeable & afflictions from its peculiar influence both upon body and mind. prostrating the former and unfitting the latter for all connected and profitable reflection. As for myself it almost completely unmans me for the time being.

Happily however I am now far less affected thereby than I have been or I should hardly attempt to write you this letter. There is usually so much of monotony in a sea voyage that you will not perhaps expect of me any thing very novel or interesting in the way of incident. not that a voyage is devoid of interest. for in the raging of the mighty ocean, in the roar of the tempest in the glories of the sun and moon and in the splendor of the stars we see much that is awfully sublime grand and beautiful, much to remind us of the power wisdom and benevolence of our great Creator. In the midst of the dashing and tumbling of oceans mighty waves and the awful roar of the tempest we are also forcibly reminded of our own insignificance and weakness and complete dependance on the divine protection. Though we have run a number of vessels since we embarked. we have had no verbal communications with any. The health of all our missionary company is now comfortable, though we are none of us in very vigorous health. We are now in the torrid zone and we very visibly feel the influence of a tropical sun in the warmth of the atmosphere both by night and by day. Our heated and crowded quarters by night are far from being the most comfortable habitation. But we have much reason to us for which we should be fervently thankful The Joseph Webb our Captain is very kind and all the officers and men treat us with kindness and respect

We have more worship on deck on the sabbath and social evening worship. We have in abendance the most common comforts of life our table being richly furnished from day to day almost too richly for our highest health. In our hands we have the precious Bible and other good books and our heavenly Father stands ready to manifest himself to our souls in his love and mercy. In my dear Mary the Lord has given me a precious treasure I feel that I have abendant reason to be thankful that he has gifted me with a companion so much like our dear Maria and so well qualified to fill her place both as a wife and missionary laborer. Glad should I have been could I have presented her to you in Rupert but the Lord doubtless in wisdom and benevolence saw fit to deny me that privilege and you the happiness of welcoming us to your home on board. But through infinite mercy which of free grace in Christ Jesus we are permitted to hope for a meeting in heaven. Yes and we may hope to meet others there who are dear to our hearts. The Lord give us grace to be faithful unto death that we may receive a crown of life. My voice has not improved as much as I had hoped it would have done as yet, but still I think on the whole there has been a very considerable improvement in my speech. As I shall hope to tell this when on our arrival at St Salvador I will now bid you an affectionate Adieu Mary joins with me in much love. Wish also an affectionate remembrance to

Mr Wright to read to Mary since I left a letter for her

brother Cyrus and wife to brother Preston and cousin Louisa The Lord be with you and them

H. Salvador Dec 26th. I hoard here on the 24th inst. The view of this city is fine. From the bay owing to the situation of the houses on a lofty hill indeed elevated stone. but the streets are many of them narrow and filthy. The houses are chiefly of brick and have not an inviting aspect. The population is stated at about 120,000. of whom the great body are blacks and mulattoes, a la portuguese. The churches here are numerous but

they are filled with idols like that of the heathen The Lord have mercy on the deluded Catholic people to-here. here in a week or three about for Batavia, home where my family is. Mrs P likes to go to Rome The Lord be your helper and comforter

your affectionate Son
Nathaniel Johnson